


<p><b>DEFENCE INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANISATION</b></p>	<p><b>TECHNICAL ADVISORY SECTION (TAS)</b></p> <p>Headquarters DIO SD Training Blenheim Hall Land Warfare Centre, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DJ</p> <p>Tel: 01985 222434</p> <p>FAX : 2259</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:DIOSDTrg-HQTASTechOff@mod.uk">DIOSDTrg-HQTASTechOff@mod.uk</a></p>	
---	--	---

## RANGE ADVICE NOTE 1/14

See Distribution

Our reference: 28-14-01

Date: 21 Mar 2014

### LIVE FIRING ARTILLERY–SAFETY CHECKS

#### Background

1. **What Happened.** A single 105 mm high explosive (HE) on a charge 4 round fired on 5 Mar 14 landed outside the Range Danger Area in a field close to the village of Patney, north of SPTA. HQ SPTA were informed on 7 Mar 14 and a SPTA safety check firing on artillery was imposed.

2. **Immediate Action to Permit Firing Whilst Investigation was Ongoing.** In order to allow firing to recommence there was a review of safe systems of training resulting in changes to written documentation and more significantly additional formal checks and oversight put in place. Firing recommenced on 14 Mar 14.

#### **CONTROL MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED.**

3. With immediate effect all live firing artillery are to formally account for surplus charge increments, including double sign off before firing, to ensure the prepared charges cannot exceed the safe charge limit imposed by range control for the specific practice. Charges are to be broken down in a central area and are not to be broken down on the gun platform. RAUs are to ensure that Range Standing Orders (RSOs) are amended to reflect this with a mandated and accountable Proforma (example attached) which is to be kept for a minimum of 30 days. In addition RAU RSOs should be amended to reflect changes in practice that a SMIG will be mandated to be present in all gun areas during live firing.

4. The control measures mentioned in paragraph 3 will remain in place until such time as the investigation into this incident is concluded and final changes to prevent such a future occurrence have been developed and put in place. These measures will be implemented either through the issue of an additional RAN and/or amendment to JSP 403, Pamphlet 19<sup>1</sup> and the supporting RSOs.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

5. The required action is to be taken immediately on receipt of this notice.

<sup>1</sup> Army Code 71035 Artillery Training Volume III, Field Artillery, Pamphlet 19 Regulations for Planning, Control, Conduct and Safety for Firing Practices.

*Original Signed*

Lt Col (Retd) N INGLIS MBE  
C1(MSF) Technical Officer  
Technical Advisory Section (TAS)

**Distribution:**

Action:

DHd UK Delivery  
DHd Overseas Delivery  
UK PTSOs  
Overseas PTSOs

Information:

Internal;

Hd  
DHd Ops/ Plans/ Safety  
CESO DIO

External:

DSEA; DLRSC Sec & Ch RSIT  
JFC  
Navy; LTAR  
Army; CESO(A), Ch LAIT, CS Cap Dir  
Air; LTAR